

REMARKS

Claims 121-131 are pending in the application. In the Office Action of April 11, 2006, the Examiner has divided the claims into two (2) groups: Group I (claims 121-123 and 130-131), drawn to a method of determining the interactive characteristics of a sample and Group II (claims 124-129), drawn to a method of determining an interaction pattern of first and second samples.

The presently claimed invention is directed to colloids immobilized with a compound protein that binds to a surface and thereby painting a profile of the binding activity of the colloid-immobilized compound and drug fingerprinting that the assay provides. Applicants submit that the methods divided into Groups I and II are closely related each other to form a single inventive method to detect the interaction of samples.

Further, Applicants submit that there is not an undue burden placed upon the Examiner to search and consider all of the closely related claims. Accordingly, all of the claims should be joined and examined together.

However, in order to be responsive to the outstanding Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the subject matter of Group II (claims 124-129), drawn to a method of determining an interaction pattern of first and second samples, for prosecution on the merits, with traverse. Applicants specifically preserve the right to prosecute the non-elected claims.

Accordingly, early examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account 502486 for any fees due to secure entry of this amendment to the extent necessary.

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Respectfully submitted,

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